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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 238
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

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CAIRO FOR UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: USIRJC, OCON

SUBJ: USIRJC--JOINT COMMISSION MEETING MARCH 3-4

REF: STATE 29596

1. DCM MET WITH VICE MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND FINANCE JAVAD VAFA ON FEBRUARY 12 AND CONVEYED TO HIM THE SUBSTANCE OF REFTEL CONCERNING PROCEDURAL MATTERS FOR THE MARCH 3-4 JOINT COMMISSION MEETING. IN EXPLAINING OUR POSITION, IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT THE PRACTICES DESCRIBED WERE FOLLOWED WITH REGARD TO JOINT COMMISSIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES, AND WE WOULD NOT WISH TO DEVIATE IN THIS CASE. WHILE VAFA SEEMED TO ACCEPT OUR POSITION, HE WRYLY NOTED OUR PROPOSAL WAS A DEVIATION FOR THE GOI FROM ITS CUSTOMARY PRACTICES WITH 26 OTHER COMMISSIONS.

2. VAFA WAS TOLD THAT AN APPOINTMENT HAD BEEN REQUESTED FOR CO-CHAIRMAN ANSARY TO MEET THE PRESIDENT AND WAS ASKED WHETHER ANY OTHER APPOINTMENTS WERE DESIRED. HE REPLIED THAT ANSARY HAD NO SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS BUT WOULD WELCOME ANY SUGGESTIONS WE MIGHT HAVE. HE NOTED THAT WHEN TREASURY ASSISTANT SECRETARY PARSKY HAD MET WITH ANSARY ON FEBRUARY 10, IT HAD BEEN SUGGESTED CONFIDENTIAL

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THAT A MEETING MIGHT BE ARRANGED WITH SELECTED CONGRESSMEN

FOR ANSARY TO EXPLAIN IRAN'S INVESTMENT POLICY AND DEVELOP-MENTAL PLANS. HE SAID THAT IF WE THOUGHT THIS DESIRABLE AND COULD ARRANGE IT, ANSARY WOULD BE WILLING TO REMAIN ON IN WASHINGTON THE MORNING OF MARCH 5 IF TIME WERE NOT OTHER-WISE AVAILABLE ON MARCH 3-4.

- 3. IN DISCUSSING OTHER ASPECTS OF THE FORTHCOMING COMMISSION MEETING, QUESTION AROSE ABOUT THE SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF OUR RESPECTIVE DELEGATIONS. VAFA SAID THAT THEIR DECISION WOULD BE GUIDED LARGELY BY WHO WOULD BE PRESENT ON OUR SIDE, BUT HE THOUGHT THAT THE IRANIAN DELEGATION MIGHT NUMBER BETWEEN 10 TO 15. HE DID NOT INDICATE, HOWEVER, WHETHER THE GOI WOULD STRIVE FOR SYMMETRY OF DELEGATIONS AS IT HAD TENDED TO DO IN THE CASE OF COMMISSION COMMITTEES. AS OUR EXPERIENCE HAS SHOWN, THE GOI TENDS TO AWAIT OUR LEAD ON MATTER OF THIS SORT, IT IS REQUESTED THAT WE BE GIVEN SOONEST SOME IDEA OF THE SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF OUR DELEGATION TO CONVEY TO IT. WE WOULD ASSUME THAT AT A MINIMUM OUR DELEGATION WOULD INCLUDE THE CHAIRMEN OF THE FIVE COMMITTEES IN ADDITION TO REPRESENTATIVES FROM OTHER INTERESTED AGENCIES OR DEPARTMENTS SUCH AS, DOT, TREASURY, AND DEFENSE.
- 4. WE ALSO TOUCHED ON THE MATTER OF AN AGENDA FOR THE FORTH-COMING MEETING AND THE KIND OF COMMUNIQUE BOTH PARTIES MIGHT WISH TO SEE EMERGING FROM THE COMMISSION'S DELIBERATIONS. VAFA HAD NO PARTICULAR SUGGESTIONS TO MAKE AND IT SEEMED EVIDENT THAT HERE AGAIN THE GOI WOULD AWAIT OUR LEAD. ACCORDINGLY AS NOTED TEHRAN 1389, WE THINK IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY HELPFUL IF UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON COULD BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS AT LEAST IN PRELIMINARY FASHION QUESTIONS OF DELEGATION COMPOSITION, AGENDA, AND COMMUNIQUES DURING HIS MEETING WITH ANSARY ON FEBRUARY 18.
- 5. FINALLY, MENTION WAS MADE OF RECIPROCAL HOSPITALITY. VAFA SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THE IRANIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON WAS PLANNING A DINNER THE EVENING OF MARCH 3 AND ASKED THAT EVENTS OF THIS NATURE BE COORDINATED IN WASHINGTON. HE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW, HOWEVER, WHETHER ANYTHING WE MIGHT HAVE IN MIND INVOLVED BLACK TIE. PLEASE ADVISE.

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YM FOR UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON: MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER HOVEYDA, FEBRUARY 18, NOTED IN TEHRAN 1386 HAS NOW BEEN CHANGED TO 11:00 AM, FEBRUARY 19. THIS CHANGE WILL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL TIME FOR MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR AND STAFF MORNING OF FEBRUARY 18.

7. POATS CORDIALLY INVITED TO STAY WITH AMBASSADOR AND HORMATS AND LINTON WILL BE PUT UP IN EMBASSY STAFF HOUSING.

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